

Message Text

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PAGE 01 THESSA 00747 151333Z

44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 NIC-01 OPR-01 CU-02 SY-04 /063 W

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P 151150Z NOV 74

FM AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2151

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE THESSALONIKI 0747

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, GR

SUBJECT: EDE RALLY DISRUPTED NOVEMBER 14

REF: THESSALONIKI 744

1. THESSALONIKI APPEARANCE BY NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC UNION (EDE) LEADER GAROUFALIAS TOOK PLACE LATE NOVEMBER 14 AT ARISTOTELOUS SQUARE UNDER HEAVY POLICE SECURITY. LARGE CROWDS INCLUDED ESTIMATED 500 SUPPORTERS CORDONED OFF BY POLICE FROM OVER 25,000 HECKLERS AND CURIOUS. GAROUFALIAS' REMARKS TOTALLY DROWNED OUT BY DEROGATORY SHOUTS FROM ORGANIZED STUDENT GROUPS DISPLAYING PLACARDS SUCH AS "STAND UP HITLER", "TRAITORS-FASCISTS", "PETROS STOP IT, WE WILL THROW TOMATOES", ETC.

2. SERIOUS INCIDENTS PREVENTED BY PRESENCE OF NEARLY ENTIRE THESSALONIKI POLICE FORCE UNDER POLICE CHIEF BRIG. GEN. STAVROPOULOS. POLICE BRIEFLY DETAINED FEW TROUBLEMAKERS AND TURNED AWAY OVERFLOW CROWDS.

3. FOLLOWING RALLY, LARGE GROUPS OF PRO-PASOK AND PRO-UNITED LEFT STUDENTS MARCHED DOWN MAIN BOULEVARDS TO

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PAGE 02 THESSA 00747 151333Z

DEMONSTRATE AT EDE HEADQUARTERS AND CHANTED "FASCIST VORRAS"

OUTSIDE OFFICES OF CONSERVATIVE "ELLINIKOS VORRAS".
CONFUSION COMPOUNDED BY MEETING AT NEARBY THEATER OF
SEVERAL HUNDRED MAOIST STUDENTS OF REVOLUTIONARY
COMMUNIST PARTY OF GREECE (EKKE). LATTER SUBSEQUENTLY
DAMAGED SEVERAL PASSING VEHICLES DISPLAYING CARAMANLIS
POSTERS.

4. NOTE: UNUSUALLY LARGE CROWDS TREATED GAROUFALIAS
APPEARANCE AS HIGH COMEDY MARKING END OF LOCAL
POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS WHICH ALL HAVE ENJOYED AFTER
10-YEAR HIATUS. POTENTIAL FOR VIOLENCE CONTAINED BY
MASSIVE POLICE EFFORT ON SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FROM
ATHENS.
BRENNAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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